



April 23, 2008

Re: Anna Moore, LVN

Dear Ms. Moore:

Thank you for your comments on the Federal Receiver's Draft Strategic Plan for Achieving a Constitutional Level of Medical Care in California's Prisons.

You indicate that you have been a Licensed Vocational Nurse at the Central California Women's Facility (CCWF) for approximately six years. The majority of your concerns regarding day-to-day health care operations will be addressed as the various initiatives are implemented. For example, defining what constitutes a medical emergency, identifying appropriate emergency response times, and establishing certification requirements for medical staff will be addressed as part of the Emergency Response Initiative. Standardized orientation and training for clinical staff, including the monitoring of ongoing competence to perform clinical skills is being addressed through the Health Care Orientation and Preceptor/Proctoring Initiative. Implementation of an effective process to document and track patient refusals will be addressed as part of the Access-to-Care Initiative. Other initiatives include recruitment and retention of clinical staff (to encompass ongoing review and evaluation of compensation) and effective management of inmate health record information.

With regard to pharmacy issues, the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) Pharmacy & Therapeutics (P&T) Committee actively oversees and manages the CDCR formulary taking into consideration safety, efficacy, and operational concerns. The committee, which includes representation from medicine, nursing, mental health, dental, and pharmacy makes decisions based on the collective input of its members. Gender-specific issues are taken into consideration when indicated. Formulary decisions, including information on medications added to the formulary are shared on a monthly basis statewide and communicated in the pharmacy newsletter, Pharmacy Horizons.

Medication management at the facility level is a key focus of the Guardian Initiative. Personnel and resources have been devoted to the process, including the use of nurse consultants to assist in both medication management assessment and in implementing standardized medication administration processes at each institution. Through the overall pharmacy program improvements, medication administration at pill lines, including narcotics, will be extensively modernized to facilitate administration and accountability.

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Again, thank you for taking the time to review and provide comments on the Receiver's draft Strategic Plan. If you have other specific questions or concerns regarding health care operations at CCWF please feel free to contact your local Regional Director of Nursing.

Sincerely

J. Clark Kelso

Receiver